

# Fully, Freely, & Entirely

Volume 15, Number 2

Newsletter of the Delaware Heritage Commission

Winter, 2005

## **WE'VE MOVED!** The Commission has a new home in Dover



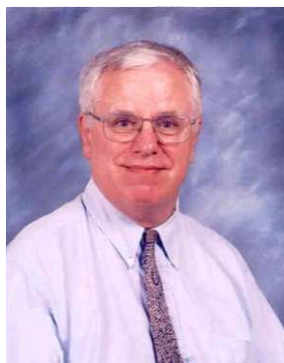
In September the Heritage Commission moved from the Carvel State Office Building, our home of over 25 years, to the Delaware Public Archives Building in Dover. This move brings the Commission closer to our partners in history and heritage and to our sister agencies in the Delaware Department of State. This move also allows the Commission to be a more active participant in the continuing creation of the First State Heritage Park at Dover. When complete, the FSHP will be a one-stop shop for Delaware history lovers (see below). The Commission staff has been getting around town, saying hello to old friends while making new. Spence's Bazaar has been a great meeting ground for the Commission as the staff has made a habit of enjoying lunch at the Amish market each Tuesday.

**To reach the Commission please call our new phone number 302-744-5077 or fax 302-744-5073. The mailing address is 121 Duke of York Street, Dover, DE 19901. We have a toll free number for New Castle County - 577-5044**

## **The First State Heritage Park at Dover**

The FSHP will allow visitors to our capital the opportunity to visit government buildings like Legislative Hall, tour the museums in the city, visit the Delaware Public Archives and other unique buildings like Woodburn—the Governor's residence. The FSHP has begun to take shape with the creation of "First Saturday in the First State" events. The November "First Saturday" event was the Commission's Delaware Book Fair and Authors Day.

## **MEET THE COMMISSION'S NEW CHAIRMAN** **Richard B. Carter of Millsboro**



Dick Carter was first appointed to the Commission board by Governor Carper in 1994. Governor Minner named Mr. Carter Chairman in August. Dick is an avid First State historian and is the author of *Clearing New Ground: The Life of John G. Townsend Jr.* and *The History of Sussex County*. While a member of the Commission Mr. Carter was the chairman of the Publications Committee. Dick Carter succeeds Dr. James Soles of Newark. Dr. Soles completed his term August 1 and now serves as a regular Commission member. Mr. Carter becomes the 15<sup>th</sup> chair in the Commission's 30-year history.

## **THE PERENNIAL APPRENTICE** **by George Fletcher Bennett**

Now available in hard and softcover. The hardcover is \$30 and softcover editions are \$15.

The 1977 book was reprinted in its entirety and includes a new jacket design and includes hundreds of photographs. Mr. Bennett was born and raised in Wilmington. He became a draftsman at 17 and opened a practice in his early twenties. This work is a scrapbook containing the author's drawings and photographs of a 60-year career in architecture. In some instances, handwritten notes appear in the text or near pictures. The author encouraged builders and homeowners to borrow his detailed drawings in order to replicate his designs for their use. This scrapbook was conceived by the author to also be an easy to follow, how-to handbook.

234 pp., 8.5 X 11 b&w illus.  
ISBN 0-924117-28-1

Order by calling the Commission at **302-744-5077** or  
online [\*\*www.state.de.us/heritage\*\*](http://www.state.de.us/heritage)

## SUMMER CAMP 2005

### A Preview

#### New Themes, New Adventures, Same Fun!

The 2004 season marked the 11<sup>th</sup> year of the Hands On Heritage Summer Camp. For season twelve, we have instituted some changes that we feel campers will appreciate. Each week will have a theme that will carry through the daily adventures. The Sea, Air and Land week for example, will take the campers onboard airplanes, boats, and canoes as they experience Delaware history through hands on activities.

The campers will visit eight new destinations in search of the fun history that the Hands On Heritage Camp has always delivered. AMC Museum, Delaware State Police Museum, and the Claymont Stone School are some examples of next summer's new sites. We will return to some old favorites as well—Fort Delaware, Greenbank Mill and Cape Henlopen. Last year the camp's highest rated destination was the Delaware State Fair so we will return again in 2005.

For high school students, the Advanced Camps will return. Based on the popularity of the Fort Miles World War II camp, we will repeat the week (August 1-5) but will incorporate new activities. The week will include a visit to the liberty ship SS *John Brown*. The June Advanced Camp (June 20-24) will focus on Colonial Delaware at Greenbank Mill. Both Advanced Camps will include Thursday evening sleepovers. At Fort Miles we will once stay over at the Biden Center and at Greenbank we'll sleepover in the Mills' 1794 farmhouse.

The Immersion Weekend (right) concept has been very successful. The fall weekend was held November 20-21 at Greenbank Mill. In the photo, members of Lewis and Clark's "Corps of Discovery" are preparing dinner. The main course is a 10 lb. salmon. It is smoking over the fire.



**5K run/walk fundraiser for camp scholarships.**  
Read all about it, page 8...

#### Forts, Plantations and Old Houses— Kent and Sussex County

**June 27 — July 1**

*Points of departure: DelTech Georgetown;  
Delaware Public Archives Dover*

June 27 Fort Miles & Cape Henlopen State Park  
June 28 Governor Ross Plantation and Mansion  
June 29 Fort Delaware  
June 30 George Read House & Old New Castle  
July 1 A Day in Colonial Dover

#### Colonial Delaware—New Castle County

**July 11 — July 15**

*Point of departure: Christiana Mall food court entrance*

July 11 Judge Morris House part 1 (Army life)  
July 12 Claymont Stone School  
July 13 Dickinson Plantation  
July 14 New Castle Courthouse & Old New Castle  
July 15 Judge Morris House part 2 (Civilian life)

#### Uniquely Delaware—New Castle County

**July 18 — July 22**

*Point of departure: Christiana Mall food court entrance*

July 18 Delaware State Police Museum  
July 19 Iron Hill Museum  
July 20 Fort Delaware  
July 21 Greenbank Mill  
July 22 Delaware State Fair

#### Sea, Air and Land—New Castle County

**July 25 — July 29**

*Point of departure: Christiana Mall food court entrance*

July 25 Indian River Lifesaving Station &  
Lightship Overfalls  
July 26 Air Mobility Command Museum  
July 27 Lewes Historical Society  
July 28 Greenbank Mill  
July 29 Brandywine River canoeing





## The Brave Timkos A Delaware family in World War II

In a ceremony held this past Veterans Day, a unique Delaware family was honored by the Office of Veterans Affairs with assistance from the Heritage Commission. Americans from every state can recall the service and sacrifice of the Sullivan brothers. The brothers came from rural roots in Waterloo, Iowa and joined the Navy with the motto, "We stick together." When all five Sullivan brothers were killed in action when their ship, the USS *Juneau*, was sunk under intense enemy fire, President Franklin D. Roosevelt noted in a telegram to the boys' mother that, "such acts of fate and fortitude in the face of tragedy convince me of the indomitable spirit and will of our people."

Such an "indomitable spirit" could be found in a family here in Delaware. Showing the same courage and the Sullivan attitude of "sticking together," the **Timko family** from Wilmington sent seven sons and one daughter to serve their country in World War II.

★**Paul Timko** – United States Coast Guard, served as an oiler aboard four different Coast Guard vessels seeing action in the Atlantic and Mediterranean.

★**Michael Timko** – United States Navy, served aboard the aircraft carrier *Lexington* as an Electricians Mate in the Pacific theatre from 1943 until the end of the war.

★**Mitchell Timko** – United States Navy, served as a Torpedoman's Mate First Class aboard the destroyer *Albert S. Grant*.

★**Frank Timko** – United States Army, served in the Army Air Corps as a bombardier and maintained the Norden Bombsight.

★**Ivan Timko** – United States Army, served as a private first class with the Headquarters unit in the China, Burma, India Theatre of Operations. Pvt. Timko received the European African Middle Eastern service medal and the Good Conduct medal.

★**Andrew Timko** – United States Army, served as Staff Sergeant in G Company 141<sup>st</sup> Infantry. A squad leader of riflemen, Sgt Timko fought throughout Italy and was wounded in action. He was awarded the Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge, Good Conduct medal and two Battle Stars.

★**Anne Timko** – Women's Auxiliary Army Corps, served as a Chief Clerk at Fort Des Moines, Iowa and was discharged with the rank of Sergeant.

★**Nick Timko** – United States Navy, served aboard the destroyer *Meredith* in the Pacific. In April 1942, Nick was part of the task force escorting the carrier *Hornet* from which planes led by Col. James Doolittle bombed Tokyo—the famous "Shangri-La" Raid. Shortly after departing Espiritu Santo on October 12 the *Meredith* was attacked while escorting a convoy of freighters to Guadalcanal by a force of 38 carrier based bombers and torpedo planes. The damage was fatal and the *Meredith* went down on October 15, 1942. Chief Water Tender Timko was killed in the attack. In the telegraph to Chief Timko's widow in Los Angeles, the Navy regretfully confirming her husband's death, it is stated that Chief Timko died of burns received in enemy action. Chief Timko's family received his Purple Heart and memorial letter from President Roosevelt.

The family had 10 children total. **Mary and Sophie** were young children during the war.

This unique family came from humble roots in Wilmington and eventually settled into farm life on the outskirts of Newark. In 1944 the family moved from their Brookside area farm (the present-day neighborhood of Scottfield) so the Army could use the land for a bomb depot. Mitchell Timko recalls his father saying the day they moved off the farm – "I have all of my boys and one daughter in the service, I have to do my part too." Discharge papers report that the sons worked a variety of blue-collar jobs—from metal grinder to carpenter to general farmhand. Anne noted her pre-war occupation as stock clerk. Ranging in age from 17 to 33 at the time of the Pearl Harbor attack, the Timko's, in sum, served 22 years, 6 months, and 6 days in service to America during World War II.



# A Tribute to Black Teachers

It has been fifty years since the passage of the historic *Brown v. Board of Education* decision which ruled separate educational facilities inherently unequal. Black teachers, in spite of the conditions of segregated schools, utilized their talents and skills to educate countless black children to become productive citizens in a segregated society. The Afro-American Historical Society of Delaware honored those black teachers and recognized the valuable contributions they made toward the educational, social and moral development of African Americans at a tribute banquet this winter.

As you read the biographies of three of the teachers honored at the event, please note that several teachers had not taught in the segregated schools in Delaware prior to the landmark decision of 1954. However, as information was received from the teachers, it was decided that **all** of the teachers who sent a history of their work in the segregated schools would be recognized. Of the 247 teachers, 54 survive today and were in attendance at the banquet. So, it is through these teachers that **ALL TEACHERS** who contributed to the education of our children were honored. Three biographies have been selected randomly for this publication of "Fully, Freely, & Entirely." For a copy of the "Tribute to Black Teachers Booklet" containing the biographies of each surviving teacher please contact the Delaware Heritage Commission at 302-744-5077.

## DOUGLAS A. GIBSON

Douglas A. Gibson earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Arts from Delaware State College and a Master of Science Degree in School Administration from the University of Delaware in Newark, Delaware. Following his employment as an Industrial Arts teacher at Benjamin Banneker School (below) in Milford, Delaware,



Mr. Gibson taught Architectural Design at Delaware Technical and Community College in Georgetown, Delaware for twenty one years. He was the designer for the Delaware Agricultural Museum in Dover and was appointed to serve on the Museum Board of Directors. He also designed a total of six churches spanning the



area from Smyrna, Delaware to Salisbury, Maryland.

Mr. Gibson has been carving ducks for more than thirty years. His carvings can be found as far away as Korea and the Philippines. Numerous articles have been written about Mr. Gibson and his carvings. Although his carvings received many awards, including ribbons from the Canadian Art Exposition and the Nur Temple, the highlights of his carving career are defined by those competitions that are "invitation only." Only the best carvers are invited to compete in the Eastern Waterfowl Festival and the Ward Brothers Foundation's Best in the World Competition and Mr. Gibson was invited to participate in both. Mr. Gibson has also been invited to demonstrate and exhibit at Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC competing with carvers from seven states. The Gibson Decorative Feather was considered the best. In the spring of 2004, Mr. Gibson was also invited to be the Delaware representative for waterfowl carving at Smithsonian Folk Life Festival. In 2002, Mr. Gibson was named "Artist-of-the-Year" by a local Ducks Unlimited Chapter. He has been a judge in both Delaware Duck Stamp Competitions during the past several years.

In addition to his teaching career, Mr. Gibson has run a carving class from his home in Milford, Delaware for many years. Two of his students have also become award-winning carvers as a tribute to Mr. Gibson's ability to transfer his skills to others.

Mr. Gibson is currently a member of the Rehoboth Art League, the Sussex County Art League, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., St. Paul United Methodist Church and the Milford Lions Club. He has also served on the Milford City Council for four years and was appointed to serve on several state committees including the Governor's Wetlands Committee and the Office of Economic Opportunity.

## JENNIE MAE PARKER GRIFFIN

Jennie Mae "Betty" Parker Griffin, born on November 7, 1927 in Milford, Delaware, was the eighth



child of the late Charles and Mabel Parker. She attended Milford School #3C from grades one through nine, Booker T. Washington School in Dover for one year and completed high school at Delaware State College High School. After graduation, Mrs. Griffin enrolled at Morgan

State College in Baltimore, Maryland where she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Secondary Education. Later, she returned to Delaware State College and earned



Excerpts from the tribute booklet by Dr. Reba R. Hollingsworth. Dr. Hollingsworth, president of the Afro-American Historical Society of Delaware, co-chaired a tribute banquet in November to honor the nearly 250 teachers from Delaware's segregated school era.

a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education. She also attended extension classes at the University of Delaware.



Betty has taught in Kent, Sussex and New Castle Counties in Delaware during her career in education. After thirty-eight years, she retired in 1991 from Fairview Elementary School in Dover, Delaware as a fourth grade teacher. Mrs. Griffin is still working with youth as a teacher in her Sunday School classes at Bethel A.M.E. Church where she has been a member all of her life. As a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church, Betty has served as a Steward and is currently a member of the Missionary Society, the Lay Organization, the Gospel Choir, the Senior Choir and the S. S. Choir.

Mrs. Griffin is a member of the Alpha Pi Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa Sorority, Inc., the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the R.S.V.P. Club. For the past four years, she has served as an Ombudsman at the Milford Senior Center where she assists seniors with making living wills.

#### **KATHRYN YOUNG HAZEUR**



From birth to adulthood, Kathryn Young Hazeur lived with her parents and siblings at the family's long term residence at 13th and Tatnall Streets in Wilmington, Delaware. Progressing through the Wilmington Public School System, Kathryn graduated from Howard High School in

1941. She matriculated at Hampton Institute in Hampton, Virginia and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education. Soon after, she was employed as a teacher in the Elementary Division of the Wilmington Public Schools, beginning in 1945 at School #5 at 12th and Walnut Streets. In 1953, she was named principal at Drew Elementary School at 7th and Lombard Streets. Later, she served as principal of Sarah W. Pyle Elementary School at 5th and Lombard Streets. In 1968,

she was transferred to Northeast Elementary School at Claymont Street and Todds Lane.

Mrs. Hazeur became the first Black graduate student at the University of Delaware from which she received a Master of Education Degree in 1952. She did additional studies at Temple University and Columbia University. Mrs. Hazeur has participated in numerous seminars, conferences and workshops and has written articles for professional periodicals. Working on weekends in Chicago for Follett Publishing Company, she served as an item writer for the Educational Testing Bureau in Princeton, New Jersey for several years and she validated the Childcraft Encyclopedia.

Mrs. Hazeur directed the first Head Start Program in Wilmington, Delaware; directed a three-year project with Dr. Prescott of the University of Maryland dealing with understanding children and youth in the 1950s; and worked with Dr. Muriel Cosby, initiating the first Adventure in Human Relations in the Wilmington area. With the advent of desegregation, Mrs. Hazeur was transferred to Carrcroft Elementary School in 1978. In 1984, Mrs. Hazeur retired as the principal of Carrcroft Elementary School in the Brandywine School District. This prominent educator says she always employed "loving discipline." Her advice to inspiring educators is: "Don't attempt to teach unless you really have the desire to shape lives. Education is no place for those who enter the field because it will make a nice career."

Mrs. Hazeur has been the recipient of many awards and she has been active in many organizations. She is currently a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., The Aphabettes, the Wilmington Chapter of Links, The Women, and St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Wilmington where she served as its first Council President. Recently, Mrs. Hazeur was honored by the Wilmington Branch, NAACP and by the Debnam House.



**Lore Hall, female dormitory at the State College for Colored Students**

#### **For further reading...**

Contact the Commission office at 302-744-5077 to purchase a copy of the book, *African American Education in Delaware: A History through Photographs, 1865-1930* by Bradley Skelcher, Ph.D.

## CREATED IN 1704 The 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Delaware General Assembly

The Delaware Heritage Commission and the General Assembly held a joint Observance and Legislative Reunion to celebrate the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Delaware General Assembly. The sun-splashed event was held at Legislative Hall on Wednesday morning, June 16, before the regular session. A sumptuous luncheon followed under a large tent near the Delaware Public Archives. The event marked the official kick-off of Dr. Carol Hoffecker's recently completed history of the States' Legislature titled, *Democracy in Delaware: the Story of the First State's General Assembly*.

The event began in the Senate chamber with remarks by Senator Thurman Adams, Representative Terry Spence, Governor Minner and former Governor Sherman Tribbitt. All living ex-governors and ex-lieutenant governors were invited and many attended, in addition to all present and past members of the General Assembly that the Commission was able to locate.



After the introductory speeches, Dr. Hoffecker delivered fun and informative speech about the history of the General Assembly—we established our own in 1704. Dr. Hoffecker encouraged everyone in the chamber to read the book but joked that she understood that many would simply flip to the index to see if, and where, their name was mentioned. Following the session, everyone made their way over to the Archives for lunch. This enabled the members and visitors to take a look at the current exhibit on the history of the General Assembly. Following lunch, Dr. Hoffecker signed complimentary copies of her book for all present and past members and other dignitaries.

Many former members of the Legislature enjoyed socializing with new friends and reminiscing about their tenure as elected officials.

## 2004 Challenge Grant & McKinstry Award Recipients

The Delaware Heritage Commission, following its mandate to promote the history and heritage of the State of Delaware, provides two grant programs available to individuals or organizations interested in delving into the rich heritage of the First State.

While there is little restriction on subject matter, there is an expectation that the work will lead to publication and thereby benefit other Delawareans. Anyone may apply for a McKinstry Award.

We are proud and excited to announce our 2004 grant recipients to date this year. **Challenge Grants have been awarded to the following:**

- **Claymont Community Center** for assistance with the publication of the booklet, "Claymont, Cornerstone of *Brown v. Board*". The booklet was available at ceremonies honoring the integration of Claymont High School on September 18.
- **The Greater Brandywine Village Revitalization, Inc.** to fund the transcription of twenty oral histories from individuals sharing their reflections of living in historic Brandywine Village.
- **Lewes Historical Society** for help in publishing the book *Swanendael in New Netherland: An Early History of Delaware's First Settlement*. For more information please contact the Lewes Historical Society at 302-645-7670.

**McKinstry Awards were presented to the following individuals for their work.**

- **Brett Gadsden** to defray costs of research on his project studying school integration in Delaware titled "All We Wanted was a Bus for the Colored."
- **Heather Wholey**, archeologist, funding for her project studying the artifacts recovered from the development of Bear Trap Dunes in Sussex County. Her findings will be on permanent display in the Bear Trap Dunes Community Center

Congratulations and thanks for helping to keep Delaware's history alive for us all. The Commission is proud to be able to support so many different individuals and groups from all three counties in Delaware.

**Visit the GRANT page at [www.state.de.us/heritage](http://www.state.de.us/heritage) for information and applications.**

## Scenes from DELAWARE BOOK FAIR & AUTHORS DAY

On Saturday, November 6, the Delaware Heritage Commission hosted the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Delaware Book Fair and Authors Day. The Book Fair is the only event of its kind that showcases Delaware writers and Delaware books. New books, used books, Delaware books and more were showcased at the biggest and best event of its kind in the First State. 58 authors were in attendance from all over DelMarVa with a variety of books available for purchase. This event is held close to holiday shopping season, so many books were purchased for gift giving. Romance to history, mystery to children's books, there was something for everyone at the Delaware Book Fair.

In addition to Delaware authors and Delaware books, this year the Commission also hosted displays from area museums. The Biggs Museum, Air Mobility Command Museum, the Historical Society of Delaware and others were present with books and gifts for sale and membership information.

Delaware Book Fair provides an opportunity for the public to meet authors, purchase books, get books signed, have lunch and visit the Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village. This event is free of charge. (There was a \$5 charge for lunch.) At the event many visitors signed up for the gift basket raffles. One of the raffles was for a basket full of books from our "Delaware goes to war" collection—*The Delaware Continentals*, *Delaware During the Civil War*, *Delaware's Coastal Defenses* and *Delaware's Role in World War II*. Proceeds from the basket sale benefited the Hands On Heritage Summer Camp scholarship program. The basket sale raised \$66 for the scholarship fund. The Basket winners:

Gary French  
Margaret Keith  
Donna Josefowski  
Kay Holmes



Pizzadili was once again the caterer and many of the attendees enjoyed Pete's fantastic buffet. Pete is quickly becoming a Book Fair fixture.

See you next year for the **10<sup>th</sup> annual**  
Delaware Book Fair and Authors Day  
**November 5, 2005.**



### COMMISSION MEMBER HARVEY B. RUBENSTEIN PUBLISHES MEMIOR ROUNDING THIRD

Harvey Bernard Rubenstein, a Wilmington attorney and long-time member of the Commission, has published a memoir entitled *Rounding Third*. A past president of the Delaware State Bar Association and the St. Thomas More Society, Mr. Rubenstein originally was appointed to the Delaware American Revolution Bicentennial Commission in 1974 and continued to serve on the commission when it was established.

The proceeds of the book are being devoted to the endowment fund of the Delaware Bar Foundation, of which Mr. Rubenstein is president of the Board of Directors. The foundation's mission is, among other things, to support funding for organizations providing legal services for the poor.

The book can be obtained at this time by making a tax deductible contribution of \$100 to the "Delaware Bar Foundation Endowment Fund at the DCF" at 301 N. Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801 (658-0773).



## Get on your running (or walking) shoes!

The Delaware Heritage Commission will host the inaugural Hands On Heritage Camp 5K on Wednesday evening, April 27, 2005, 6:30 p.m. The run/walk will be held at the AAA Overlook on the Wilmington waterfront. The run/walk will follow the Wilmington Riverwalk and will loop around Frawley Stadium. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Hands On Heritage Camp scholarship fund. Each year the Commission sends nearly 100 middle and high school students back in time to experience the rich history of Delaware through hands-on activities. For many years the Commission has worked very hard soliciting scholarship funding from many Delaware corporations and service organizations. Since 2001 we have noticed a decline in corporate giving. This in turn drives many organizations like the Heritage Commission to service groups in search of funding. With only so many slices in the pie, many groups are receiving less and less each year for their programs.

The Commission has decided to create a unique fundraising event that will provide support for the camp's scholarship program. We feel this type of event is the right course of action. Plan now to participate in the inaugural Hands On Heritage Camp 5K. The run/walk is the first event of the season for Marathon Sports Event Management. Check out the 2005 race schedule at [www.races2run.com](http://www.races2run.com).

The Commission has partnered with Marathon Sports to coordinate the race. The event will be professionally managed, scored and officiated by Wayne Kursh, owner of Marathon Sports and the man responsible for thousands of running and walking events in Delaware since 1978. Please save the date and enjoy a competitive run or easy stroll to benefit our camp scholarship program.

Since 1993 the Commission has sent over 500 youngsters to the Hands On Heritage Camp free of charge. All of our scholarship recipients come from single-parent or single-income families or have been recommended by their social studies teacher in their school.

**We are looking for volunteers and sponsors to help the Commission offset the cost of hosting the event. To contribute, or to volunteer, please contact the Commission at 302-744-5077.**

### Delaware Heritage Commission

121 Duke of York Street

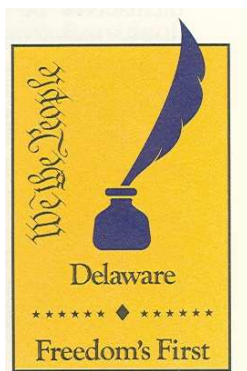
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**"Fully, freely, and entirely approve of, assent to, ratify and confirm"** is the language Delaware's delegates used to ratify the United States Constitution.